

The study also found that the businesses counseled by women's business centers had an economic impact of \$500 million in gross receipts, \$51.4 million in profit, and created 12,719 new jobs. With these numbers, it is clear that the women's business center program is a wise investment that will continue to pay dividends to women in business, the Government and our national economy well into the future.

As many of my colleagues know, there are currently 87 women's business centers. Of these, 35 are in the initial grant program and 53 have graduated to the sustainability part of the program. These sustainability centers make up more than half of the total women's business centers, but under the current funding formula are only allotted 30 percent of the funds. Without changing the portion reserved for sustainability centers to 48 percent, as the Senate-passed Snowe-Kerry bill, S. 2267, directs, all grants to sustainability centers could be cut in half, or worse, more than 20 experienced centers could lose funding completely.

I believe it is very important to pass H.R. 5008 and extend the pilot so that our most experienced centers can continue their good work for women-owned businesses; however, the current funding formula for the Women's Business Center still needs to be updated. As the author of the bill to establish

the sustainability program, I am hopeful that my colleagues in Congress will soon come together to fix this problem and secure the women's business center network once and for all.

I thank my colleagues for their support of small businesses and for considering immediate passage of this important small business bill.●

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5008) was passed.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2004

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:45 a.m. on Wednesday, September 15. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then proceed to the consideration of the military construction appropriations bill as under the order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, it is a little after 11:15 tonight. We have had a very long day, a long evening, but a very productive day and evening in that we have completed the homeland appropriations bill with a unanimous vote of 93 to 0. I thank all Members for their patience and for their willingness to continue late into the night to wrap up our work on the bill.

We will resume business tomorrow morning and consider another appropriations measure. I will update all Members tomorrow as to what to expect over the course of the next couple of days. Again, I congratulate our colleagues, THAD COCHRAN, and the ranking member for all of their hard work on the homeland bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:18 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 15, 2004, at 9:45 a.m.